Cat's Tale

1950

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CAT'S TALE

Published by the students of
MORGANTON HIGH SCHOOL
MORGANTON, NORTH CAROLINA
VOLUME VII

ALMA MATER

From the mountains to the sea
Rings a sound that's dear to me.
Waking, sleeping, still I hear
Alma Mater, dear.

No matter where I choose to roam,
You will always be my home.
Singing praises to the sky
For dear old Morganton High!

Composed by M. T. Cousins

DEDICATION

Words cannot aptly express our gratitude to one of the best teachers Morganton High School has ever had—one who has shown a genuine interest in every student and whose earnest endeavor to promote high ideals has definitely shaped our future lives. In a sincere effort to show our appreciation for the invaluable friendship, guidance, and inspiration she has given us, we dedicate this 1950 *Cat's Tale* to

MISS PEARL TETER

ADMINISTRATION

MR. WILLIAM S. HAMILTON
Superintendent
Duke University, A.B.

MR. J. E. GARDNER
Principal
Davidson College, A.B.
University of Pittsburgh, M.ED.

SCHOOL BOARD

J. O. Barbour, J. W. Carter, Mrs. S. D. Dysart, Ben Greene, Mrs. Cecil Hamilton, E. R. Moran, Mrs. Phil Pitts, John Pons, Buddy Ward.

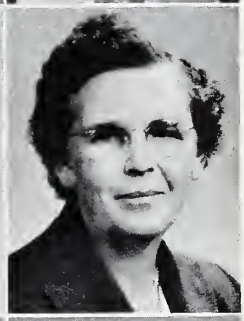
THE FACULTY

Harriette R. Barbour
Bible

Ruby Blalock
Commercial

Doris Boone
Science

Mrs. Mary K. Carter
English

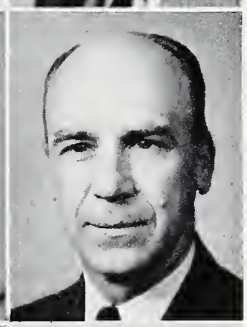


Letha Copeland
Mathematics

M. T. Cousins
Choral Class, Band

Mary Lee Gray
French, Spanish, Psychology

R. W. Harvell
Civics, Mathematics



Virginia D. McClure
Latin, English

Clara Lee McComb
Biology

F. B. Nims
English

Maston S. Parham
Supervisor

THE FACULTY

Otis R. Peterson
Coach, Physical Education, Civics

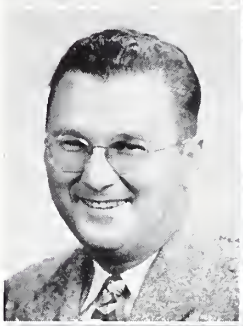
Mrs. Gloria G. Pons
Commercial

Royale Prevette
Commercial

Fred M. Putnam
History

Frances B. Reid
Librarian

Pearl Frances Teter
English



Walter F. Wagner
Industrial Arts

Alice Weber
Mathematics

Mrs. De Lanie Winchester
Home Economics

Mrs. Polly Gibbs
Secretary to the Superintendent

Martha Noggle
Secretary to the Principal

Helen L. Watson
Dietitian

CLASSES

SENIORS

OFFICERS

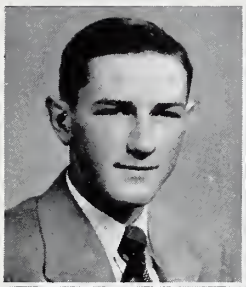
Nancy Ross ..... *President*
Betty Jean Ramseur ..... *Vice-President*
Bill Littlejohn ..... *Secretary*
Katie Poarch ..... *Treasurer*
Miss Barbour ..... *Adviser*

MASCOTS

Ronny England

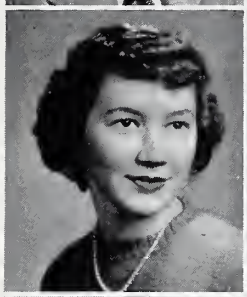
Bennie Katherine Smith

Jimmy Anderson
January 3
Silent type; willing helper; neat appearance.



Frank Bowers
March 31
Likes a big time; everybody's pal; quick come-back.

Doris Jean Barnwell
February 22
Sparkling eyes; good sport; soft voice.

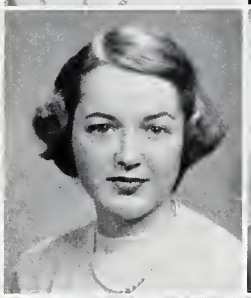


John Branch
January 3
Takes life as it comes; placid disposition; gadabout.

Hazelene Blanton
March 18
Constant chatterer; obliging; good-natured.

Tommy Breeden
December 22
"Romeo"; well-dressed; man about town.

Mary Murphy Boggs
September 27
Giggles; loves to travel; golden locks.

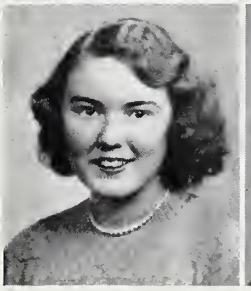


Peggy Bright
May 20
Ace on basketball court; lovely voice; attractive.

Peggy Bolick
July 9
Likeable; unaffected; knows her own mind.

Betsy R. Browne
July 3
Full of life; old hand at cheerleading; versatile.

Mary Ann Bostic
July 4
Usually smiling; hidden talents; conversation never ceases.



Mary Ann Campbell
July 4
Distinctly ladylike; plenty of gray matter; friendly smile.

Jane Carter
April 20
Determined and unpredictable; that Southern drawl; friendly greeting for everybody.

Joanne Connelly
May 24
Tops with everybody; modest; efficient.

Margaret Elizabeth Causby
May 11
Artistic; says little — accomplishes much.

Betty Ann Copeland
August 25
Cute little blonde; really toots that clarinet; "B. A."

Bette Ward Clarke
June 2
Trim; the fire that keeps the Cauldron bubbling; musical.

Norma Mae Crites
March 2
Pint-size; vivacious; doll-like.

Luther Clontz
March 19
Rather quiet; industrious; strives to please.

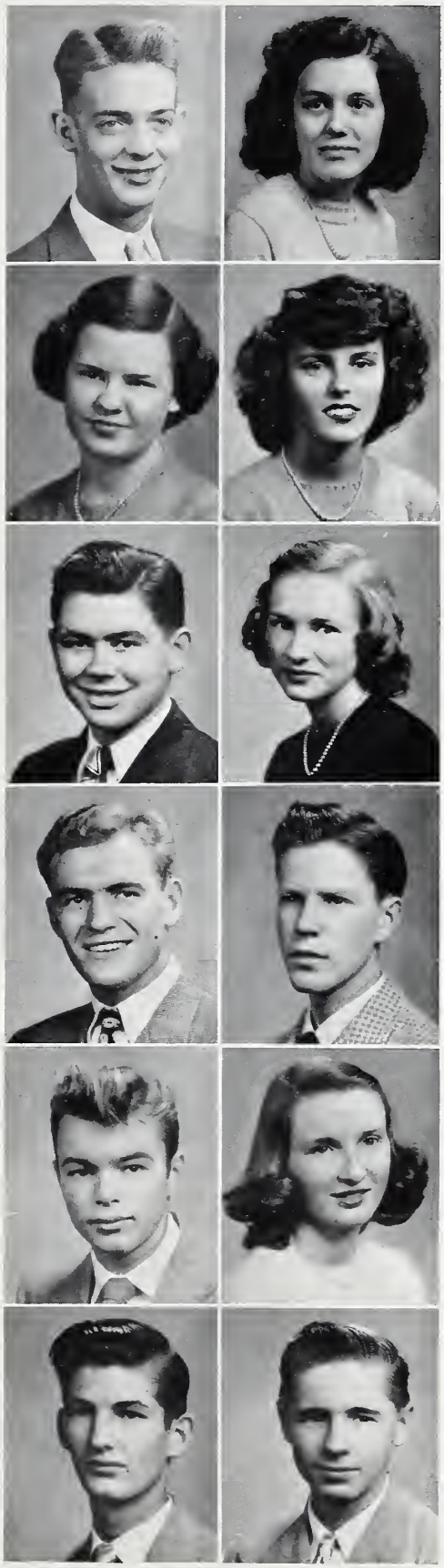
Shirley Cuthbertson
May 31
Good alto singer; cheerful; fun-loving.

Robert C. Cobb, Jr.
April 2
Very friendly; interesting to talk to; inquisitive.

Juanita Davis
July 17
Conscientious; neatly dressed; one of our cutest.

Homer H. Coffey
April 19
Jovial; nothing worries him; shuffles along.

Patti Devine
December 4
Easy-going; active; friendly flirt.



Troy Dobson
June 1
Never frowning; always clowning; friendly.

Maxine Donahue
December 13
Hard worker; enjoys life; infectious laughter.

Millard T. Duckworth
August 21
"Duck;" unperturbed air; mischievous.

Bill England
November 19
Happy-go-lucky; contagious laugh; heartbreaker.

Bill Fisher
June 17
Gets around; carefree; well-liked.

Bobby Fleming
May 29
"Man With the Horn;" ready wit; always up to something.

Faye Franklin
May 2
Quiet manner of speaking; big brown eyes; courteous.

Alice Frances Freeman
April 26
Natural charm; lighthearted; attractive.

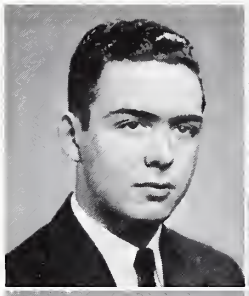
Beverly Gayle
January 30
Atomic blonde; sunny disposition; Alabama drawl.

Herbert Gibbs
July 6
Madcap spirit; never a dull moment; agreeable.

Ruth Greene
January 31
Cute as a button; smart clothes; dreamer.

Harold W. Hallyburton
October 18
Slow speech; seldom worries; argumentative.

Bill Hamrick
May 31
Polite; nice smile; "il parle francais."



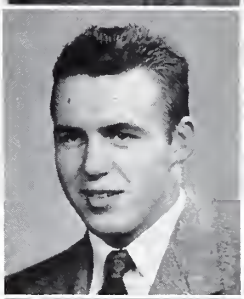
Mary Aston Leavell
August 8
Sharp as a tack; "level"-headed; very dependable.

Ila Margaret Harrill
May 7
Loves to talk; likeable; ready for a laugh.

Verna Jean Ledford
March 10
Reserved, but friendly; efficient; sweet disposition.

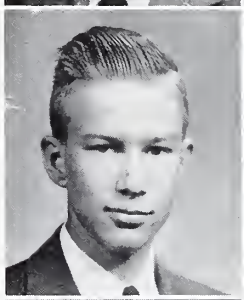
Rebecca Harris
January 7
Stylish; talkative; maid of lovely manners.

Gloria Leonhardt
April 2
Cupid's victim; musical ability; serene.

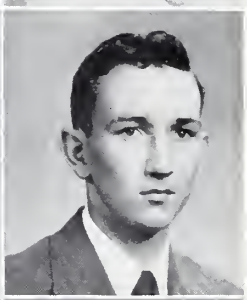


Melvin Hart
June 8
"Sleepy;" liked by all; pigskin pusher.

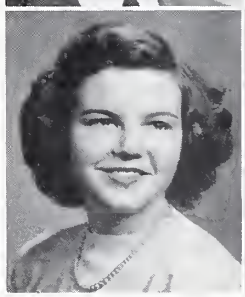
Margaret P. Lingafelt
November 25
Unselfish and understanding; "Marty;" loyal friend.



John R. B. Hawes, Jr.
September 6
Camera fiend; true gentleman; efficient business manager.



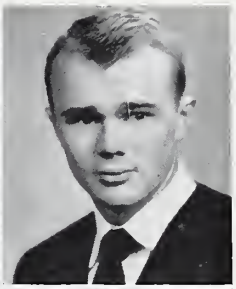
Billy Littlejohn
May 12
"Little Juan;" well-liked; snappy dresser.



Marilyn Keaton
July 19
Merry; "soda-jerk;" stored-up energy.

Rama Jean Littlejohn
July 20
"Dean;" clarinet tooter; fun-lover.

Amanda Smith Mabe
October 14
Very obliging; willing to work; soft-spoken.

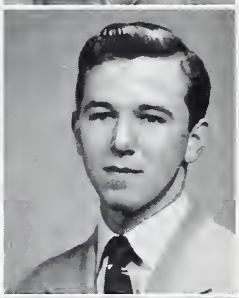


Johnny Morris
March 4
Original; our prize rug-cutter; dynamic personality.

Dorothy Jean McCall
December 21
Serious-minded; easy to get along with; agreeable.

Mary Loretta Moses
August 1
"Wuddie," gets things done; sweet.

Rebecca Ann McNeely
April 22
Little but loud; energetic; animated expression.



Eldridge Mull
March 31
"Buck," sports a flashy car; mild-tempered.

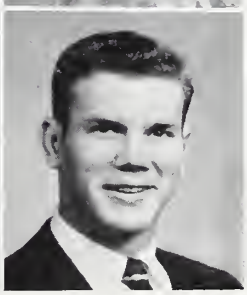
Josephine McNeilly
July 28
Quite a few brains; charming personality; conscientious.

Lou Ellen Newton
August 10
Lots of fun; friendly; good listener.

Clara Melton
December 26
A voice so sweet; diligent; kind-hearted.

Betty Elizabeth Orders
August 28
Neat as a pin; petite; sweet smile.

Billy Miller
April 4
"Cutie;" ladies' man; teller of tall tales.



Lewis Paschall
July 18
Outstanding personality; good-looking; popular.

Dick Patton
January 31
Tall, good-looking; loves football; airplane addict.

Charlotte Marie Puette
July 1
Small; sweet; pleasing manner.

Doris Pearson
September 16
Diminutive; dainty; a smile for all.

Betty Inez Rader
April 23
Reserved; very pretty; year-round sun tan.

Ethelene Perry
September 10
Lovely brown eyes; cooperative; gentle voice.

Betty Onetta Rader
July 25
"Radar;" vim, vigor, and vitality; cutely crazy.

Kenneth Phillips
November 3
Neat; industrious; likely to succeed.

Betty Jean Ramseur
July 4
There's no one sweeter; immaculately neat; genuine.

Katie Poarch
February 2
"Poochie;" sweet personality; cheerful.

Frances Ramsey
September 1
Full of enthusiasm; strawberry blonde; gift of gab.

Adele Elizabeth Poteat
September 22
Well-groomed; individual laugh; blithe spirit.

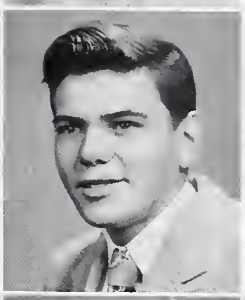
Robert W. Rhodes
June 19
Likeable lad; happy disposition; nonchalant.

Peggy Jacqueline Ritchie
June 15
Radiant expression; loves to dance; cheerful.

Janice Reid Smith
October 30
A way with men; agreeable; ready smile.

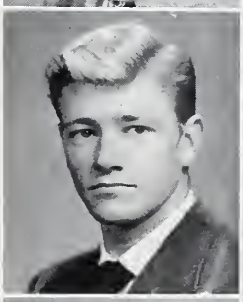
Nancy Ross
May 22
Dark eyes; thoughtful; heart of gold.

Pauline Smith
September 11
Modest; kind-hearted; 'tis a pleasure to know her.



Charles Rusmisell
July 21
"Rusty;" carefree; indefinable personality.

Tommy Smith
August 19
Sense of humor; efficient football manager; ambitious.



Bob Shepherd
January 6
Strong, silent type; imperturbed; blushes easily.

Willa Dean Smith
April 18
Winsome smile; congenial; quiet until known.

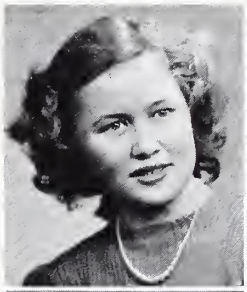
Billy Smith
December 31
Athletic; live-wire; just a bit (?) of devilment.

Joan Snipes
June 15
Blonde curles; never hurries; wonderful voice.

Evelyn Smith
August 14
Quiet; sincere; easy to get along with.

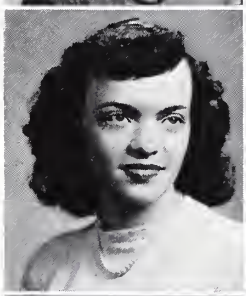
Max Snipes
November 3
Dignified; pleasing personality; capable.

Mildred Elizabeth Solesby
April 2
Sweet little blonde; nice to know; industrious.



Shirley Weatherman
June 24
Soft, gentle voice; very dependable; sincere.

Patricia Ann Sparks
January 30
"'Tricia;" loves to laugh; does her work well.



Norma Webb
July 11
Pleasant company; quiet manner of speaking; unassuming.

Ellen Sprinkle
April 17
Master of the keyboard; gay; anything for a laugh.

Mary Frances Wells
May 13
Agreeable nature; slender; undisturbed manner.

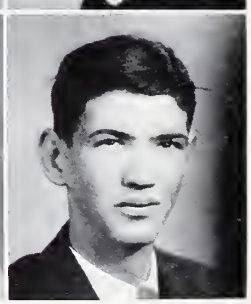
Harvey Stratton
July 6
Frankie's rival as woman killer; football captain; handsome.

Carolyn Whisnant
February 12
Willing worker; gentle manner; knows her music.

Dorothy Jean Stroupe
June 12
Accommodating; likeable lass; songbird.

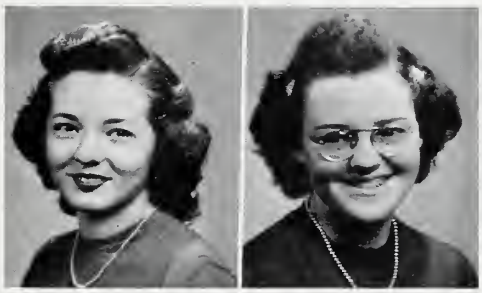
Barbara Rue Williams
August 12
Really plays that clarinet; intriguing; loves to drive.

Sarah Alice Watkins
January 5
Droll; full of the joy of living; loves people.

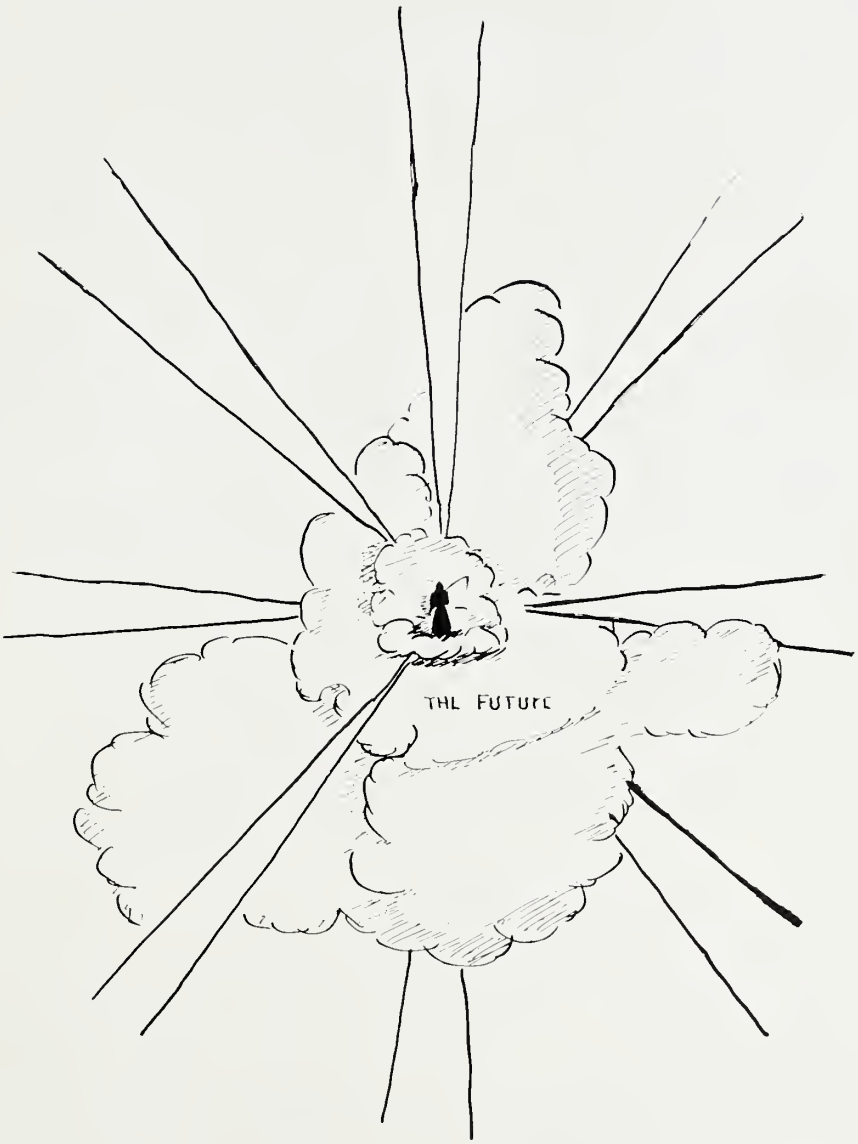


Ralph Williams
February 12
Very tall; lazy drawl; easy-going.

Sarah Franklin Wilson
July 27
Sweet 'n lovely; rarely serious; 99 and 99/100% happy.



Margaret Rose Wraight
May 10
Pleasant disposition; enjoys people; calm and collected.



CLASS PROPHECY

June, 1965

The Earth has changed drastically in the last fifteen years. You see, I am a cosmopolitan not of the world, but of worlds—a cosmopolitan in search of news of old friends. I chose the New York Rocket Field to land my Spato Ship. Although quite fatigued from the hazardous three-month journey from Mars, the desire to see my friends surpassed my feeling of exhaustion, and I arrived half an hour later by Rocket transport in Morganton, a progressive city of 150,000. I experienced difficulty in finding my classmates because they are working all over the O. S. S. (Organized Solar System). The preceding factor nccessitated the asking of many questions, but my tedious research has been rewarded by the astounding facts ccmpiled.

Jimmy Anderson, through incomparable determination, has become dean of a technical school for Cueology. He has replaced Ralph Williams, who now lives the horrible life of a retired millionaire. What is this Cueology?

Some of Jim's most prominent understudies in this fabulous establishment for the ambitious are Billy Hamrick and John Branch.

Bill England has just turned down a coaching job to be a salesman. He sells the players, not the footballs.

Clara Melton, noted psychologist, has completed her book, "The Innermost Thoughts of a Bicycle Spoke." The publisher is Hart (Melvin, that is).

Marilyn Keaton, who in high school desired church work in later life, now builds them—by hand. Carolyn Whisnant is her able-bodied secretary.

Josephine McNeilly was recently voted "Housewife of the Year." Her ambition — children, dishes, and dirty windows.

Millard Duckworth, famous Picker Pucker Pie People taster, has just had a disagreement with his employer, Bob Rhodes, over Picker Pucker's packer.

In this new and modern O. S. S. Betsy Browne and Adele Poteat have found a new method of day dreaming at night and mooning in the daytime.

Mary Boggs has been chosen as one of the third grade matrons—I mean teachers to go to the new glass primary school. Also chosen were Hazelene Blanton and Maxine Donahue. (Some say that "Mac" is as mean as our unforgettable "Put.")

Juanita Davis has acquired monumental fame by being the first air hostess to fly to Jupiter and back barefoot.

That pleasant voice that politely gives the time of day on all planets of the O. S. S. is Charlotte Puette, intercommunication operator.

Margaret Wraight is our most prominent missionary to the Ogogs on Mars.

A recent advertisement read "Listen to Joan Snipes, promising basso profundo of the Giddy Gals Glee Club." Sarah Wilson, Betty Orders, Betty O. Rader, and Peggy Ritchie are also members of the Glee Club.

Tommy Breeden, Personnel Manager for the "We Bury You Vertically So You Won't Have That Laid Out Feeling Company," has just hired a regiment of undertaking secretaries. These are Mary Ann Campbell, Frances Freeman, and Mary Ann Bostic.

CLASS PROPHECY

Kenneth Phillips has been promoted to Jet General of the Jupiter Atomic Air Force. You might call him a Jupiter Jet Jerk.

Troy Dobson ("Dobalong") has finally succeeded in paying off the mortgage of his factory which manufactures shoes with heels guaranteed not to wear down on the outside.

Bill Fisher, Charles Rusmiselle, and Bob Shepherd have spent the last fifteen years trying to find a way to get tight jeans off over big boots.

Tommy Smith ("Smoodie") has increased his fame as a scientist by converting billiard balls into Plutonium.

Mary Aston Leavell has steadily improved her journalism on the Hobo Press. Now Hobo is contemplating paying her a salary. She has been with them since graduation and has literally worked for peanuts.

Johnny Hawes has his own photography shop. His specialty is photographing "mean 'lil juniors" under radioactive lamps. The filming is fatal. Working with him are Nancy Ross, Frances Ramsey, and Mildred Solesby (they get the customers).

J. H. Stratton and his confederate, Lewis Paschall, have completed a series of Sport and Navy stories. These are about "Sports."

Peggy Bright, Gloria Leonhardt, Loretta Moses, and Amanda Mabe are happily married and are busily preparing for their fifteenth anniversary party.

Bette Clarke's magazine, "The Music Critic," recently became famous by getting an exclusive interview with the universally known bandleader, Bobby Fleming. Maestro Fleming's equally acclaimed pianist is Ellen Sprinkle.

Bill Littlejohn has won a place for himself in the medical world by successfully performing a very delicate operation, removing a frog from Frank Bower's throat. The noted surgeon was assisted by Rebecca McNeely.

Johnny Morris was hanged in a tree near M. H. S. The catastrophe occurred shortly after the publication of the Annual.

They say it was a catastrophe??

Johnny Morris

Prophet

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

1. THE BRAINS OF THE CLASS

INTELLECT?

2. THE BRAWN OF THE CLASS

ATHLETE?

GOOD LOOKING?

3. PRINCE & PRINCESS CHARMING

POPULAR?

4. RIGHT OUT OF THE BANDBOX

NEAT?

5. MOST IN DEMAND

1. Mary Aston Leavell and Tommy Smith
2. Peggy Bright and Harvey Stratton
3. Sarah Wilson and Bill England
4. Adele Poteat and Bill Littlejohn
5. Janice Smith and Max Snipes

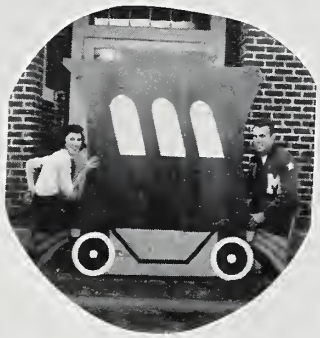
SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

6 UNDERSTUDIES OF EMILY POST

7. THREATS TO BROADWAY

TALENT ?

BEST ALL ROUND



8. TOPS IN EVERYTHING

FRIEND ?

9 NEVER A DULL MOMENT

ORIGINAL ?

10. EVERYBODY'S PALS

6. Carolyn Whisnant and Jimmy Anderson
7. Nancy Ross and Johnny Morris
8. Joanne Connelly and Melvin Hart
9. Jane Carter and Troy Dobson
10. Katie Poarch and Bill Fisher

CLASS WILL

We, the class of 1950, being of unsound mind but generous nature, hereby leave to the deserving underclassmen some of our most treasured possessions in this our last will and testament.

We know that we shall be missed greatly, for our four years in Morganton High have been historical (hysterical?) ones. But all good things must come to an end. We must move on to reach either our destination or our doom. As we take our sad departure, we leave our much used books, our good desks, and our studious attitudes to the underclassmen.

Article I: To the faculty we leave our thanks for their guidance and for the consideration shown to us during the past four years.

Article II: To the rising seniors, we leave all the joy that comes with being called Seniors. We hope that you will have as much fun as we have.

Article III: To those who shall follow us we do sadly bequeath these our talents and our possessions.

I, Joanne Connelly bequeath my friendliness and gracious ways to anyone who needs them.

I, Frank Bowers, leave my good Ford to Wanda Ross. Here's hoping she will take good care of it.

We, Norma Crites and Doris Pearson, will our "second best" physiques to Norma Jean Brittain and Bobbie Oxford.

I, Beverly Gayle, leave my genuine Alabama drawl to Bob Nichols.

I, Pauline Smith pass on my love for red to Jerry Teaney.

I, Margaret Causby, have decided to bequeath my artistic ability to Arneta Orders, since she doesn't have any.

I, Herbert Gibbs, hope I can leave!

I, John Branch, leave my distinction of going down in history (III, that is) to some industrious Junior.

I, Faye Franklin, leave my quiet manner to Joyce Bridges.

I, Eldridge Mull, leave "nothing to nobody;" Why? I want to take everything I have with me.

I, Jean Ledford give up my place in the Honor Society to some smart Junior who can live through the initiation.

I, Bill Smith, sadly leave a certain Junior girl.

I, Dick Patton, leave my football shoulder pads, knee pads, helmet, etc., to be divided among next year's hall patrol; they'll need 'em.

We, Ruth Greene and Patti Devine, leave our success in getting in the Drive-In Theater without paying to Blossom and Lebo.

We, Luther Clontz and Max Snipes, leave our golden curls to Bill Welborn and Stanley Palmer.

I, Katie Poarch, leave my answers to geometry problems to Don Deaton.

I, Harold Hallyburton, leave Shakespeare and Dickens just where I found them; "unread, unhonored, and unenjoyed."

I, Homer Coffey, will my excess energy to "Goober" Watts.

CLASS WILL

I, Patricia Sparks, leave my willingness to have a good time to Joan Long.

I, Rebecca Harris, will my tiredness to Luanne Rhodes.

I, Shirley Cuthbertson, leave my good disposition to Anne Bigham, hoping she will take things easy as I do.

I, Hazelene Blanton, will my ability to give oral reports to Mozelle Buff.

I, Mary Boggs, leave my giggles to Jean Avery so Mrs. Carter's class won't be so quiet that she won't know what to do.

I, Mardie Lingafelt, leave my good personality to some Junior girl who has what it takes to go with it.

We, Lou Ellen Newton and Jean Barnwell, leave our curly hair to someone with unruly hair.

I, Mary Wells, leave my ability to drive a "flivver" to Edith Lyday. I hope she won't have to push as much as I did.

I, Juanita Davis, leave my neatness to Carolyn Simpson.

I, Jane Carter, grudgingly leave my long *green* pencil with the eraser to the bum who swiped it!

I, Bill Miller, leave my success in taking other boys' girls away to "Ramrod."

I, R. C. Cobb, leave this bit of advice to all timid (?) Freshmen boys: "Some love the ladies, some do not; some love a few, it's better to love a lot."

We, Betty Ann Copeland and Barbara Williams, leave our squeaky clarinets to Edgar Mabe and Arlene Morgan.

I, Rama Jean Littlejohn, leave my privilege of singing off key in Choral Group to Gracie Cook.

I, Peggy Bolick, leave my sweetness to Cissie Martin to go along with hers.

I, Janice Smith, leave my cheerleading spot to Jane Styers. Carry on!

I, Evelyn Smith, will my success in walking in homeroom late without an excuse to Frankie Causby.

I, Betty Jean Ramseur, leave my boy troubles to Vera Whisnant.

I, Sarah Watkins, leave my laugh to Corny Murray.

We, Jean Stroupe and Shirley Weatherman, leave our talents and good grades to Betty Rose Powell and Ann Alwran.

I, Betty Inez Rader, leave my good looks and my lasso to any Junior who hasn't got a man.

In witness whereof we hereby set our hands, our feet, and our seal, on this second day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and fifty.

Josephine McNeilly

Testator

Witnessed by:

"Tootsie"

"Poochie"

"Termite"

Frankie "Mule Train" Laine

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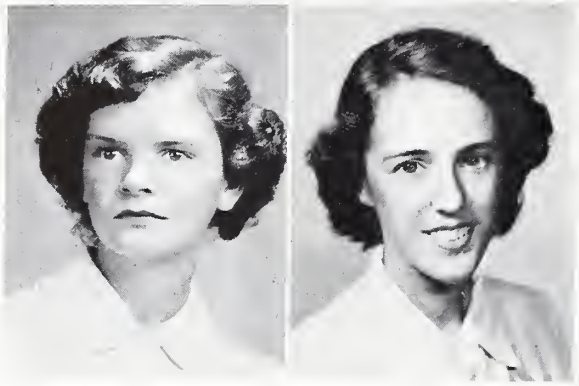

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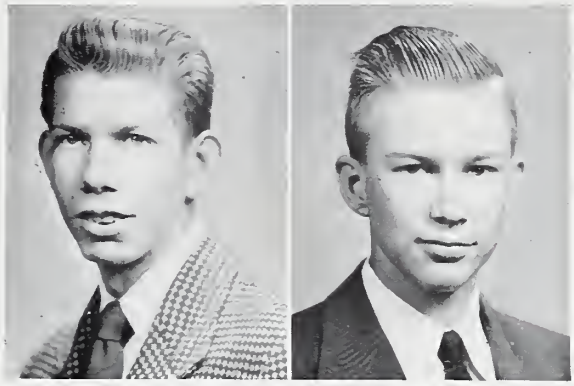

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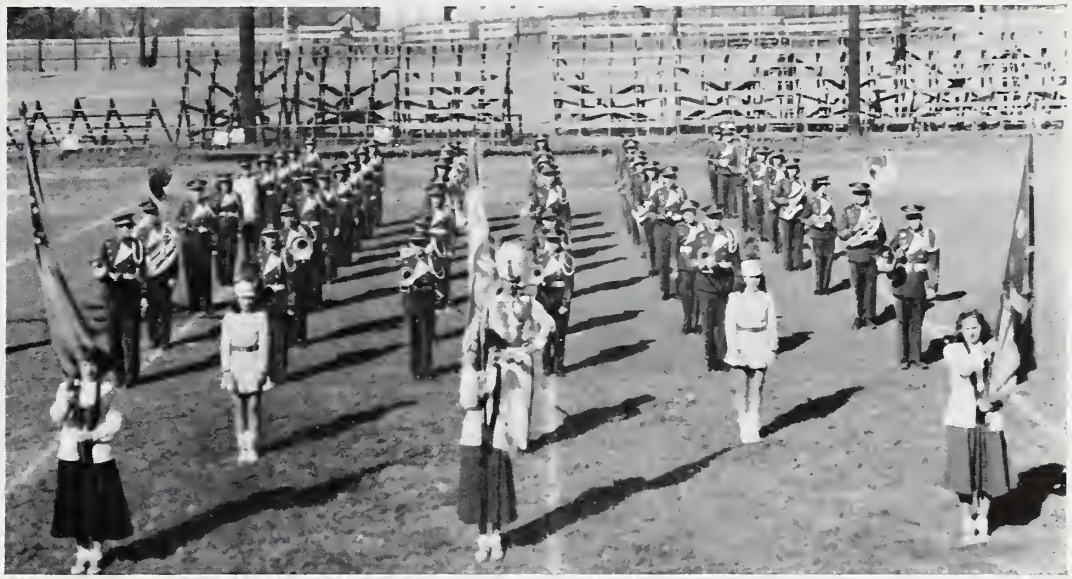

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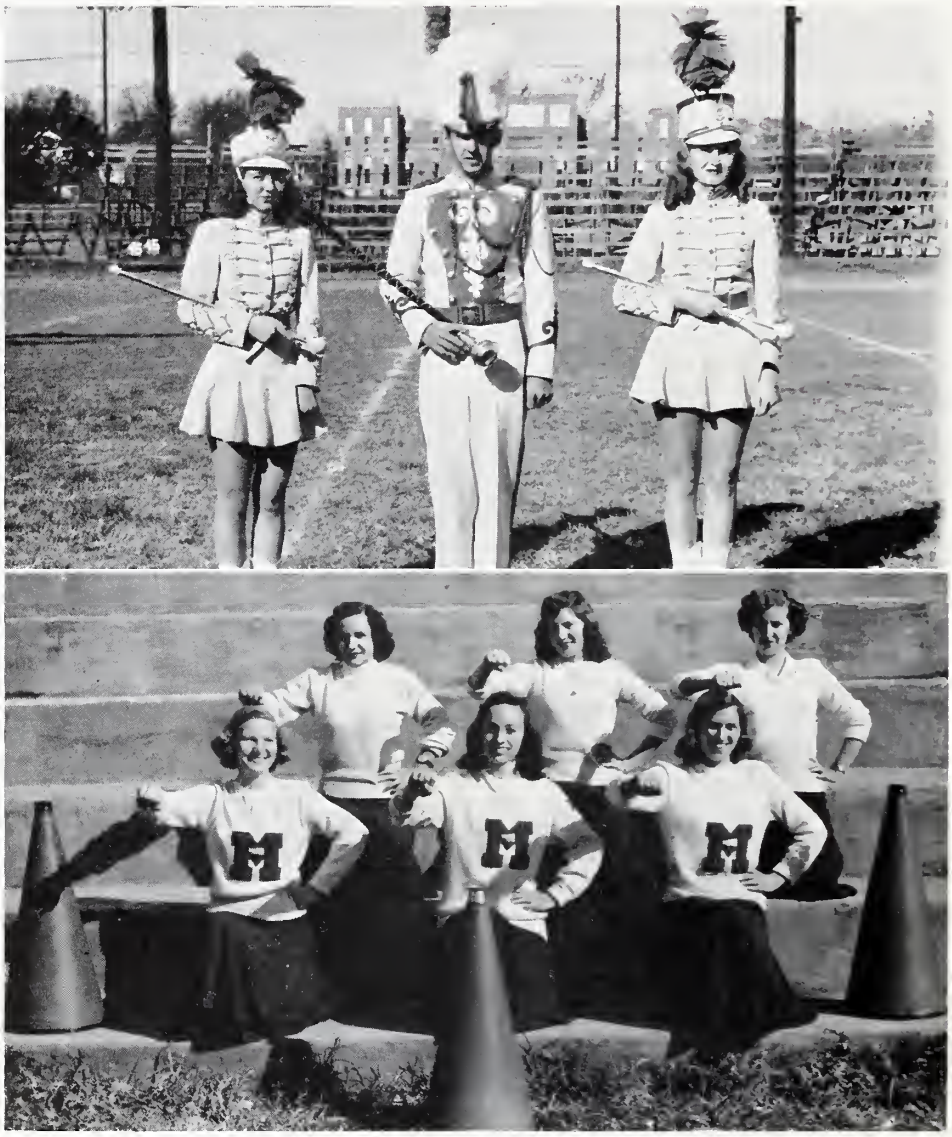

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Betsy Browne

Johnny Morris, *Chief*

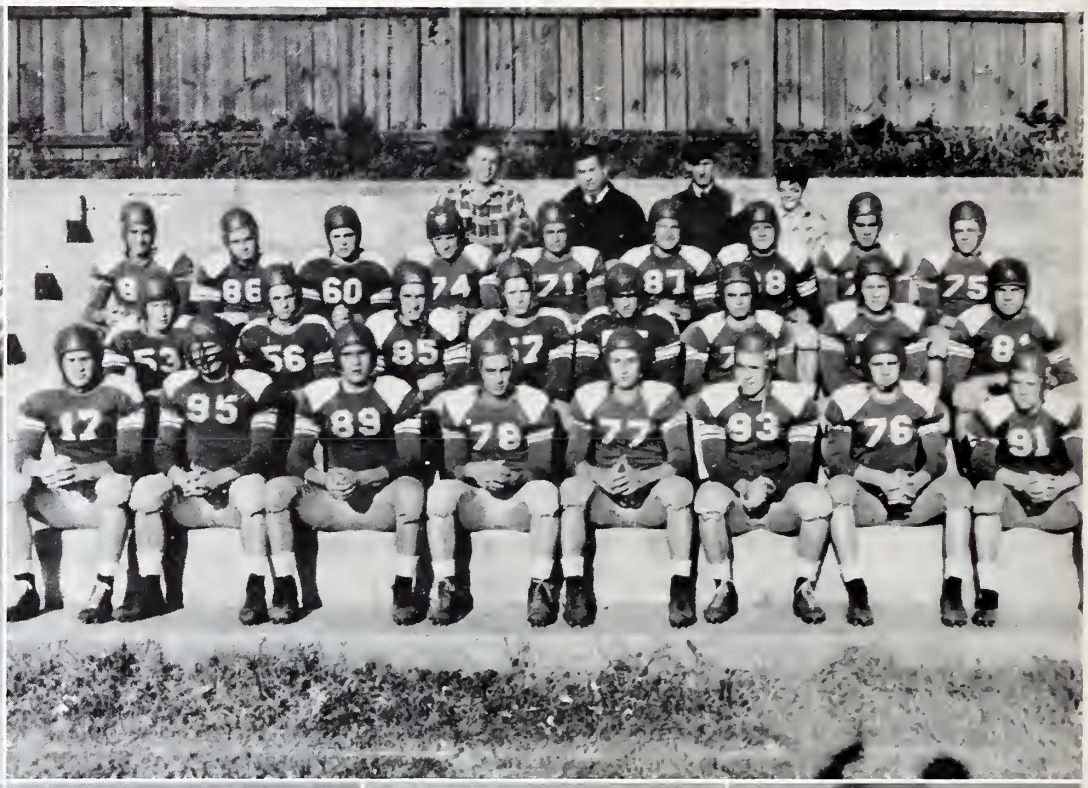
Betty Rose Powell

Wanda Ross

Ann Smith

Janice Smith

ATHLETICS



Bean
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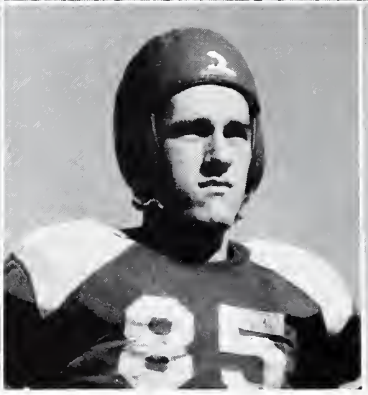
England



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O. R. Peterson
Coach

Fred M. Putnam
Assistant Coach

Kenneth England
Assistant Coach

Stratton

Smith

Rockett

Littlejohn
Miller
Patton

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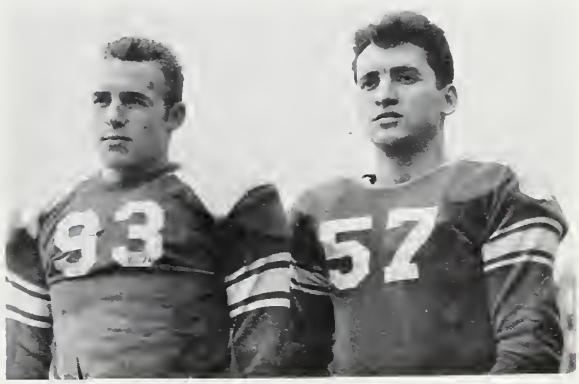
FIRST TEAM

Edward Bean, Ned Digh, Bill England, Melvin Hart, Bill Helms, Bill Miller, Dick Patton, Motley Poteat, Oliver Rockett, Bob Shepherd, Bill Smith.



HARVEY STRATTON
Captain

MELVIN HART
Co-Captain

FOOTBALL SUMMARY

The Morganton High Wildcats went through what can be called another successful season. Although they finished the season with a record of five wins and five losses, no team succeeded in scoring over two touchdowns against them, and the final statistics showed Morganton had run up a total of one hundred and twelve points to their opponents' ninety-one.

The season opened on September sixteenth against Concord, under rainy skies. After the final din of battle had died down, the score showed Morganton victorious by the score of 12 to 0. The game was featured by the long runs of Helms and Smith; Helms scoring both touchdowns.

The following Friday, Morganton traveled to Hendersonville, gaining a smashing 40 to 6 victory. Stratton and Helms were outstanding for the Wildcats; Stratton scoring four times, and Helms once. The longest play of the game was a thirty-one yard pass from Stratton to Smith, which accounted for the final Morganton score.

On September thirtieth, the Wildcats met the strong Marion team and were once more victorious; this time by a score of 19 to 6. Wingback Tellis Smith scored first on a beautiful sixty-eight yard run in the first period. Stratton scored again in the second period, and early in the third period he broke through the middle and ran fifty-seven yards for the final Wildcat tally.

On October seventh, Morganton met Lenoir for the game of the year. Without a doubt, it was the most thrilling game. The Wildcats were defeated by the conference champs 13 to 0, despite sensational plays by the forward wall and the terrific running of Tellis Smith, who made one run of fifty-five yards.

On the following Friday, the Wildcats, still obviously downcast over their loss to Lenoir, were upset by Lincolnton 14 to 7. Stratton scored the lone Morganton touchdown, and the game ended with the ball on the Lincolnton one-yard line.

On October twenty-first, the Wildcats traveled to Canton. During the first half Canton scored twice and at halftime, prospects for a Morganton victory were indeed dim, with the score 13 to 0. However, in the second half, sparked by the beautiful running of Stratton, the Wildcats came to life, with Stratton scoring twice and converting for the extra points, this giving Morganton a 14 to 13 victory.

Morganton's next game was played at Cherryville on November fourth, Cherryville winning 12 to 7, for their first victory over Morganton in fourteen years. Stratton provided the Wildcats' score.

In a hard fought, homecoming game, November eleventh, the Wildcats were defeated 12 to 0. Helms and Smith turned in another fine game however.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Wildcats concluded the season with a triumphant 13 to 6 win over Charlotte Tech, a game which had twice been rained out. Helms passed to Shepherd for the first tally, with Smith converting for the extra point. After a sustained drive Tech scored, to give heightened interest to the game. In the fourth period Helms again passed, this time to Smith for the final score of the year.

Following the season's close, Bill England, Dick Patton, and Tellis Smith were chosen to play in the Optimist Bowl at Asheville.

Stratton and England also received honorable mention for All-State berths by various newspapers in the state.

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Jimmy Patton
Bucky Reep
J. D. Russ
Bob Williams
Buddy Williams
Gene Williams
Charles Wilson

FOOTBALL MANAGERS
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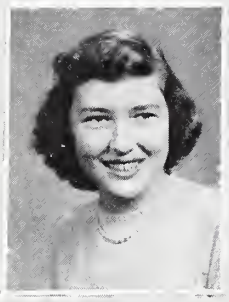
Kent Hogan



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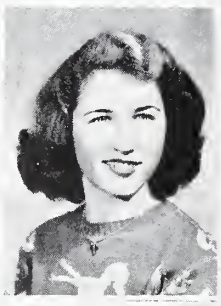

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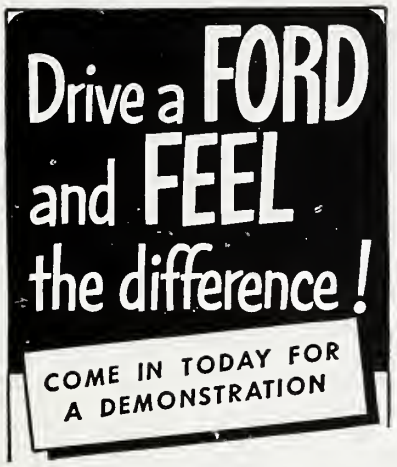

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